



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



BILL WEAVER, DIRECTOR
USDA/NASS ALABAMA FIELD OFFICE

RON SPARKS, COMMISSIONER
ALABAMA DEPT. OF AG. AND INDUSTRIES

PO Box 240578, Montgomery, AL 36124-0578

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Issue 27

Rainfall Too Late to Improve Crop Conditions

Data tables reflect the week ending: **October 3, 2010**

CROP PROGRESS

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | 2009 | 5-Yr Avg. |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|------|-----------|
| | Percent | | | |
| Corn Harvested | 94 | 90 | 49 | 83 |
| Cotton Bolls Opening | 88 | 84 | 63 | 85 |
| Cotton Harvested | 32 | 22 | 0 | 15 |
| Peanuts Dug | 36 | 26 | 9 | 34 |
| Peanuts Harvested | 23 | 10 | 5 | 24 |
| Soybeans Dropping Leaves | 75 | 67 | 59 | 76 |
| Soybeans Harvested | 22 | 12 | 10 | 25 |
| Winter Wheat Planted | 9 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| N/A =Not Available | | | | |

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Exc. |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|------|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Corn | 5 | 14 | 29 | 46 | 6 |
| Cotton | 10 | 27 | 38 | 24 | 1 |
| Peanuts | 15 | 16 | 44 | 23 | 2 |
| Soybeans | 9 | 25 | 45 | 21 | 0 |
| Winter Wheat | 8 | 6 | 48 | 38 | 0 |
| Livestock | 2 | 14 | 44 | 37 | 3 |
| Pasture & Range | 19 | 40 | 31 | 10 | 0 |

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

| | Days Suitable | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | | Percent | | | |
| District 10 | 6.0 | 39 | 37 | 24 | 0 |
| District 20 | 6.7 | 75 | 23 | 2 | 0 |
| District 30 | 6.8 | 17 | 55 | 28 | 0 |
| District 40 | 6.8 | 52 | 48 | 0 | 0 |
| District 50 | 6.7 | 28 | 62 | 10 | 0 |
| District 60 | 6.2 | 31 | 45 | 24 | 0 |
| State: Current Week | 6.5 | 43 | 42 | 15 | 0 |
| State: Previous Week | 6.6 | 47 | 42 | 11 | 0 |

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Almost the entire state of Alabama is still considered to be in some sort of drought condition according to the September 28, 2010, U.S. Drought Monitor. Overall, the state is 96.4 percent abnormally dry, with 66.3 percent moderately dry, 25.2 percent severely dry, and 4.4 percent extremely dry. This is compared with 44.4 percent abnormally dry conditions three months ago, and no drought conditions one year ago. Daytime highs ranged from 87 degrees in Tuscaloosa and Mobile to 78 degrees in

Sand Mountain. Overnight lows ranged from 40 degrees in Hamilton to 58 degrees in Headland. The largest amount of precipitation occurred in Troy Municipal with 4.16 inches of rain over a period of one day. Jack Tatum, Regional Livestock Extension agent, stated that a good, slow, all-day rain is needed as creeks are dry and winter grazing areas need to be planted. Brenda Glover, Regional Extension Agent, commented that they did receive a little rain last weekend, but not enough. Karin J. Knowles, Acting CED for Escambia County FSA, stated that their county is still short on moisture and received only a little rain in some areas. Kris B. Balkcom, Research Associate stated that the drought and dry conditions hurt the crops. Don Ball, Extension Specialist Professor, stated that some rain was reported over the weekend, but the unusually hot summer was hard on living things and created a poor crop year all the way around.

Cotton/Corn/Peanuts/Soybeans: Charles H. Burmester, commented that all corn has been harvested and in most cases the yield was very good; however, the dry weather and hot temperatures took a toll on soybeans. He anticipates an early harvest because soybeans have a lot of small pods that are not filled out, and some plants have even dropped their pods. Kris B. Balkcom commented that corn is pretty much harvested and peanuts are showing a wide ranging yield. Kris Balkcom stated that a lot of the peanuts being harvested are Seg 3's due to the alpha toxins, which equates to poor quality. The recent rains this past week helped with digging peanuts, but did not help anything else, which was also echoed by Doyle Barnes, County Executive Director. Charles D. Monks, Extension Specialist, stated that yields for upland cotton ranged from near disaster to disaster. He also stated that if the cotton was planted in a low field with a lot of clay that held water, it did much better than in the sandy coastal plains. Cotton yields are expected to vary widely across the state. Dry weather has caused a lot of the top crop on the cotton plant to be lost. Hot temperatures at night decreased cotton yields even in the irrigated fields because they couldn't be watered enough. He also expects the quality of cotton this year will be affected.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Jack Tatum, stated that producers are already feeding hay. Brenda Glover echoed this same sentiment about producers already feeding hay, and expects a shortage this winter. Brenda Glover also commented that lots of farmers have sent animals to the feedlot earlier than normal due to the lack of grass in pastures. Don Ball stated that while there were a lot of army worm problems, it seemed to be declining. What producers are looking for now is a light tropical storm to bring more rain. Hay yields are lower than average for hay production this year, and the hot, dry conditions significantly reduced yields.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday September 27, 2010 To Sunday October 3, 2010

| Weather Station | Air Temperatures | | | | Precipitation | | | Precipitation since Jan 1 | | | Avg. 4" | GDD Base 50 | | GDD Base 60 | |
|---|------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-------|------|---------------------------|--------|----------|-----------|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| | High | Low | Avg | DFN | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN | % Normal | Soil Temp | Total | DFN | Total | DFN |
| District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 46% of Corn Ac., 45% of Soybean Ac. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Muscle Shoals | 85 | 47 | 66 | -2 | 0.37 | -0.49 | 2 | 32.45 | -8.26 | 80 | | 114 | -9 | 44 | -14 |
| Russellville | 82 | 48 | 64 | -2 | 1.70 | 0.82 | 1 | 29.77 | -13.13 | 69 | | 108 | 3 | 38 | -6 |
| Belle Mina | 83 | 44 | 62 | -6 | 0.61 | -0.14 | 2 | 33.02 | -8.57 | 79 | 70 | 88 | -26 | 24 | -27 |
| Huntsville Ag | 83 | 48 | 65 | -3 | 0.32 | -0.52 | 2 | 31.63 | -11.91 | 73 | | 104 | -16 | 36 | -20 |
| Hamilton | 85 | 40 | 63 | -4 | 0.46 | -0.45 | 1 | 44.53 | -1.17 | 97 | | 97 | -13 | 27 | -22 |
| District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 21% of Soybean Ac. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Anniston AP | 83 | 48 | 66 | -4 | 1.06 | 0.34 | 2 | 32.80 | -9.11 | 78 | | 112 | -18 | 42 | -21 |
| Cullman Ag | 81 | 46 | 63 | -4 | 0.04 | -0.99 | 1 | 45.16 | -0.58 | 99 | 72 | 93 | -20 | 24 | -27 |
| Sand Mountain | 78 | 47 | 63 | -3 | 0.92 | 0.01 | 2 | 30.98 | -12.13 | 72 | 69 | 93 | -13 | 23 | -22 |
| Gadsden_AP | 81 | 48 | 65 | -3 | 0.30 | -0.44 | 1 | 28.40 | -14.75 | 66 | | 107 | -13 | 37 | -19 |
| Bridgeport | 79 | 46 | 63 | -3 | 1.00 | 0.09 | 1 | 38.32 | -7.17 | 84 | | 97 | -8 | 28 | -16 |
| Guntersville | 81 | 48 | 66 | -3 | 0.56 | -0.29 | 2 | 39.92 | -1.56 | 96 | | 111 | -17 | 41 | -22 |
| District 30 North Central Alabama - 7% of Corn Ac., 7% of Soybean Ac. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thorsby | 82 | 52 | 68 | -1 | 0.45 | -0.31 | 1 | 33.88 | -10.39 | 77 | 75 | 131 | 1 | 61 | -2 |
| Talladega | 82 | 48 | 65 | -3 | 0.72 | -0.09 | 1 | 37.15 | -7.16 | 84 | | 108 | -13 | 38 | -18 |
| Birmingham_AP | 84 | 50 | 66 | -3 | 0.31 | -0.46 | 2 | 37.88 | -4.75 | 89 | | 114 | -16 | 44 | -19 |
| Alabaster | 83 | 51 | 67 | -3 | 0.70 | -0.05 | 2 | 40.14 | -5.09 | 89 | | 119 | -13 | 49 | -15 |
| Pinson | 83 | 47 | 64 | -3 | 0.22 | -0.60 | 1 | 42.60 | -1.59 | 96 | | 104 | -11 | 34 | -17 |
| Opelika_Wtr_Plt | 79 | 50 | 66 | -4 | 1.86 | 1.06 | 2 | 38.09 | -7.15 | 84 | | 113 | -18 | 43 | -21 |
| Alexander_City | 83 | 52 | 67 | -2 | 0.87 | 0.05 | 1 | 32.91 | -12.21 | 73 | | 122 | -6 | 52 | -10 |
| Tuscaloosa_AP | 87 | 48 | 67 | -4 | 0.81 | 0.11 | 2 | 33.68 | -9.24 | 78 | | 123 | -19 | 53 | -21 |
| Jasper | 82 | 46 | 63 | -4 | 0.77 | -0.10 | 2 | 48.87 | 4.39 | 110 | | 100 | -14 | 30 | -19 |
| District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 7% of Corn Ac., 9% of Soybean Ac. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Union Springs | 84 | 51 | 69 | -2 | 1.00 | 0.27 | 1 | 27.97 | -15.72 | 64 | | 136 | -6 | 66 | -8 |
| Marion Junction | 83 | 52 | 67 | -3 | 0.59 | -0.14 | 1 | 31.66 | -10.58 | 75 | 81 | 122 | -13 | 52 | -15 |
| Montgomery_AP | 86 | 53 | 70 | -2 | 2.17 | 1.41 | 1 | 31.35 | -10.65 | 75 | | 144 | -9 | 74 | -10 |
| Livingston | 84 | 50 | 66 | -4 | 0.46 | -0.31 | 2 | 44.76 | 0.98 | 102 | | 117 | -18 | 47 | -20 |
| District 50 SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 7% of Corn Ac., 10% of Soybean Ac. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bay Minette | 86 | 54 | 70 | -4 | 1.00 | 0.05 | 1 | 51.15 | -2.40 | 96 | | 143 | -20 | 73 | -20 |
| Brewton_AG | 89 | 49 | 70 | -1 | 0.82 | 0.01 | 1 | 46.34 | -5.45 | 89 | 88 | 143 | 0 | 73 | -1 |
| Thomasville | 86 | 53 | 69 | -2 | 0.02 | -0.71 | 1 | 33.74 | -11.84 | 74 | | 136 | -10 | 66 | -10 |
| Mobile_Bates | 87 | 53 | 70 | -5 | 1.19 | 0.19 | 1 | 48.67 | -3.34 | 94 | | 139 | -28 | 69 | -27 |
| District 60 SE Alabama - Wiregrass 15% of Corn Ac., 8% of Soybean Ac. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eufaula_Wildlife | 84 | 55 | 70 | -1 | 4.08 | 3.43 | 1 | 51.51 | 10.59 | 126 | | 142 | -1 | 72 | -2 |
| Troy_Municipal | 86 | 50 | 69 | -3 | 4.16 | 3.50 | 1 | 39.34 | -2.36 | 94 | | 136 | -12 | 66 | -12 |
| Highland Home | 84 | 53 | 69 | -2 | 1.40 | 0.68 | 1 | 39.34 | -5.25 | 88 | | 136 | -9 | 66 | -10 |
| Geneva_Ag | 84 | 52 | 68 | -5 | 1.33 | 0.54 | 1 | 39.28 | -6.84 | 85 | 80 | 131 | -26 | 61 | -25 |
| Headland | 85 | 58 | 72 | 2 | 1.38 | 0.68 | 1 | 35.45 | -9.60 | 79 | 82 | 160 | 9 | 90 | 9 |
| Dothan | 85 | 56 | 71 | -2 | 1.16 | 0.42 | 1 | 37.40 | -6.59 | 85 | | 149 | -5 | 79 | -5 |

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Air and Soil Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. PCT of Norm: Cumulative Rainfall since January 1 as a percent of normal (using 1961-90 normals period), 2008. Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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